

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Claims 22, 23, 26, 29-31 and 34 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Ernest et al (U.S. 4,426,320). Applicant has amended independent claim 22 to recite in part “wherein the catalyst foam filter includes a side edge and a rear face and wherein the wall flow filter surrounds at least a portion of the side edge.” Applicant has also amended independent claim 30 to recite in part “wherein each catalyzed foam filter includes a side edge and wherein one of the wall flow filters surround at least a portion of the side edge.” Ernest fails to identically disclose or suggest independent claims 22 and 30 as amended. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 22, 23, 26, 29-30 and 34 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Rummler et al (U.S. 5,853,579). Rummler discloses a treatment system for treating solid materials and/or liquid materials. Applicant has amended independent claim 22 to recite in part “wherein the catalyzed foam filter includes a side edge and a rear face and wherein the wall flow filter surrounds at least a portion of the side edge to trap particulate matter between the wall flow filter and the catalyzed foam filter.” Independent claim 30 has been amended to recite in part “wherein each catalyzed foam filter includes a side edge and wherein one of the wall flow filters surround at least a portion of the side edge to trap particulate matter between the wall flow filter and the catalyzed foam filter.” Rummler et al fails to identically disclose or suggest the claimed products as set forth in independent claims 22 and 30. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 22-26, 28, 30-40 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Galloway (U.S. 5,582,800). However, Galloway discloses a plurality of filters 14 comprising a

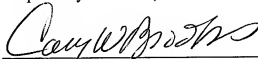
tube 16 composed of a porous metal alloy. As such, Galloway does not identically disclose or suggest a catalyzed foam filter as recited in independent claims 22 and 30.

Claim 27 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ernest et al (U.S. 4,426,320). However, claim 27 depends from independent claim 22 which is believed to be patentable over Ernest for the reasons stated above.

Claims 24, 25, 28 and 32-33 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over either Ernest et al or Rummler et al in view of Galloway. However, as indicated above, neither Ernest nor Rummler suggest a catalyzed foam filter having a side edge and a wall flow filter surrounding at least a portion of the side edge. Although Galloway discloses a type of separator, Galloway is not directed toward a catalyzed foam filter. Applicants maintain that there is no suggestion of the claimed invention set forth in independent claims 22 and 30 even if Ernest or Rummler were properly combinable with Galloway. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is hereby authorized to charge the Assignee's Deposit Account Number 07-0960 the fee for the newly added claims.

Respectfully submitted,



Cary W. Brooks, Reg. No. 33,361  
Reising, Ethington, Barnes, Kisselle, P.C.  
P. O. Box 4390  
Troy, MI 48099-4390  
(248) 689-3500

Dated: January 4, 2008